

Please add the following claims:

--56. Software stored in machine readable format comprising:
a means for displaying an icon on a screen on an end-user computer said icon operable to launch the software,
a means for accessing and displaying data on said end-user computer,
a means for detecting a network connection and executing a transaction with a network server to determine if at least some of said data should be updated,
a means for executing said transaction and updating said data, and
an alerting means for altering an appearance of said icon on said screen after said data is updated.

a3 57. Software as claimed in Claim 56 wherein said data is stored on said end-user computer.

58. Software as claimed in Claim 57 wherein said data is E-mail.

59. Software as claimed in Claim 56 wherein said altering an appearance of said icon includes changing a color of said icon.

60. Software as claimed in Claim 56 wherein said altering an appearance of said icon includes highlighting said icon.

61. Software as claimed in Claim 56 wherein said alerting means further comprises a means of returning appearance of said icon on said screen to an unaltered appearance after updated data has been displayed on said screen, said altered appearance being the same as before said appearance was altered.